



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 18, 2005

Dear California Congressional Delegation Member,

As you know, technology and innovation -- and the jobs they create -- are a vital force behind California's economic engine and have played a major role in California's prosperity for the past 50 years. This accomplishment is not accidental; California's high technology success is highly dependent on the innovation and creativity of university research. Our universities and laboratories produce bold new ideas and transform fundamental discoveries into valuable products and services. Federal investment in the State's science and technology infrastructure is a major factor contributing to the success of our research universities, laboratories and industries. California's scientists excel at merit-based competition. In 2002, federal R&D spending in California exceeded \$15.6 billion, representing 18 percent of the total federal expenditure in this area -- making our state the leading state in the nation in terms of federal R&D spending.

We need to ensure that these resources continue to flow to California, to help supply our economy with highly trained scientists and engineers with new knowledge to fuel the science and technology-based sectors of our economy. The State's technology leadership is being challenged by emerging nations and regions like India, China, and Europe. It is therefore important not to weaken our investment in research and development, particularly at our colleges and universities. We cannot fail to invest in the future economic health and well-being of California and its citizens.

I strongly urge you and the entire California delegation to ensure that federal support for research, particularly at the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Defense, is made a top priority in the Fiscal Year 2006 appropriations process.

I look forward to working with you on this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger